



American Geophysical Union

**AGU VOLCANOLOGY, GEOCHEMISTRY, AND PETROLOGY SECTION
NEWSLETTER: JUNE 2013**

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Please visit the [VGP-section Web site](#) for further news and information. Items for future newsletters may be sent to [Sarah Fagents](#).

(1) MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

AGU Leadership Meeting

At the recent Leadership meeting at AGU headquarters, Catherine Chauvel and I were brought up to date on the AGU governance structure and process, and the roles, responsibilities and relationships of the Board, Council, committee/task forces, and staff. As you probably are aware, AGU has implemented a new governance model that was developed by members, staff and stakeholders. The new model is well defined and operates effectively to the benefit of all involved (especially members) and more activity is on the horizon including strategic development and organisational work in various areas including membership, diversity and the international role of AGU. Catherine and I strongly support these directions while at the same time looking to the needs and wants of VGP members. Communication is a key, and you will hear more in the next months about developing ideas.

Cooperation with MSA and GMPV

VGP continues its cooperation with the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA) and the GMPV, our sister division in the EGU. There will be co-sponsored sessions with both organisations at the 2013 AGU Fall Meeting (including one that will host the MSA Dana Medal Lecture) and the [MSA Dana Medal](#) will be presented to Patricia Dove at the VGP Reception on Tuesday, 10 December. Nominations are currently open for the GMPV Division award, the Robert Wilhelm Bunsen Medal, and details (including instructions for nominations) are given on the [EGU Web site](#). The deadline is 15 June and you must be an EGU member to submit a nomination.

2013 AGU Fall Meeting

Planning is well underway for the AGU Fall Meeting and abstract submission will open soon (17 June). Students remain an important focus of planned activities, and VGP continues to be an active participant in AGU's initiatives. The Outstanding Student Presentation Award (OSPA) aims to promote, recognize and reward undergraduate, Masters and PhD students for quality research. Seven students were honoured for their presentations at VGP sessions in last year's Fall Meeting (details of the awardees are in the previous [VGP-section newsletter \(March 2013\)](#) and also on the [VGP-section Web site](#)) and each will receive complimentary student registration for the 2013 AGU Fall Meeting or a \$195 credit towards registration. AGU has made steady improvements to its

judging system to facilitate the participation of all willing volunteers, but VGP still requires a Student Awards committee to organise the judging and determine the awardees. The committee is now in the capable hands of Tyrone Rooney, who is looking for volunteers to serve on the committee (see below in section 2). It is a rewarding job that helps our students, so I urge you to consider volunteering.

Reviewers needed for VGP Student Travel Grant applications

On a similar topic, VGP participates in the Student Travel Grant Awards and last year extra funds from the VGP section budget enabled awards to be given to seven students presenting their work in VGP sessions. Our section has been asked to provide a team of reviewers for the VGP-related travel grant applications, and in past years this task has usually fallen to the VGP Executive after a frantic call for help. This year I would like to involve a greater range of VGP members in the reviewing process, and I would be thrilled if a lot of you would agree to volunteer. It's not a lot of work, especially if many people are involved, and it's an easy way to contribute to VGP. **Please contact [Catherine McCammon](#) if you are interested.** Many thanks!

—[Catherine McCammon](#)

AGU Section President, Volcanology, Geochemistry, and Petrology

(2) SEEKING NEW MEMBERS FOR STUDENT AWARDS COMMITTEE

Over the past two years Howard Day has provided extremely effective leadership of the VGP student awards committee. However, with Howard stepping down and turnover on the committee, we are seeking new volunteers. The committee organizes the judging of presentations for the Outstanding Student Paper Awards at the Fall AGU Meeting. The judging process also provides constructive feedback for student VGP members, and is an important component in training the next generation of VGP scientists. **Please contact [Tyrone Rooney](#) if you are interested and include a short paragraph about your background.**